

Docket No. 87359.1960  
Application No. 10/617,702  
Customer No. 30734

Special Examination Procedures  
Amendment After Final  
Under 37 C.F.R. 1.116

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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant in re of:  
James BAICH, *et al.*

Serial No. 10/617,702

Filed: July 14, 2003

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Group Art Unit: 3679

Examiner: David BOCHNA

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BOX AF

For: PIPE CONNECTING METHOD AND APPARATUS

AMENDMENT UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.116

**Mail Stop Non-Fee Amendment**  
Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

This is in response to the final Office Action mailed November 16, 2004, having a three-month shortened statutory period for response set to expire February 16, 2005. The following amendments and remarks are respectfully submitted.

Please amend the above-identified patent application as follows:

**Amendments to the Claims** are reflected in the listing of claims on page 2 of this paper.

**Remarks/Arguments** begin on page 6 of this paper.